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SUBJECT: IMI - Development of infrastructure facilities

1.SUMMARY: The government of Sri Lanka (GSL) has planned to set up two large dry ports. The setting up of the dry port will bring about opportunities in the development of infrastructure facilities and the railway line. End Summary

2.GSL hopes to set up the dry ports through the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) and the Sri Lanka Railway Department (SLRD). The two dry ports will be connected to the seaport by a dedicated railway line. The development of infrastructure facilities will have to commence before the setting up of the two dry ports and will include the construction and upgrading of the rail track and the procurement of locomotives.

3.SLPA hopes to become one of the few hub transshipment ports in Asia. Setting up two dry ports will help SLPA to use the limited terminal space within the port more productively and it will also serve as a logistical hub for container handling. Once the dry ports become operational container transport on public roads will be prohibited and this will help ease the traffic congestion.

4.Further details can be obtained from the General Manager, Sri Lanka Railways, Olcott Mawatha, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka. Phone: 94-11-2431177; fax: 94-11-2446490

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